

Regular Meeting
Recreation Commission
Borough of Rumson

September 21, 2016

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:05PM.

Present: John Lembeck, Chairman; James Dengler, Alternate Chair; Kerry Chandler; Dan Bavuso; Mike Cecil; JB Kiley; and Chris Hawke.

Kevin Delia, Recreation Director, was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

The minutes from the August 17th, 2016 Recreation Commission meeting were presented. Motion to accept the minutes as written was approved by Jim Dengler and seconded by Chris Hawke. All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- Stephen Barrett from the Shade Tree Commission could not attend the meeting as previously planned. He is planning on attending the October Recreation Commission Meeting.
- John Lembeck added that he spoke with Mark Wellner, Supervisor of DPW for the Borough of Rumson regarding the addition of trees to Victory Park and Meadow Ridge. John mentioned that each tree would cost approximately \$1000.

GENERAL INFORMATION FROM DIRECTOR

- The treasures report was provided by Helen Graves, Borough of Rumson CFO to the Recreation Commission.
- John Lembeck explained some of the details from the treasures report. Kerry Chandler asked about the sweeping of certain accounts to the total recreation balance. Kevin Delia said he is taking the guidance of Helen Graves to determine the best course of action on this matter. John then added that in the past it was done at the end of each calendar year but it is probably best to follow Helen's plan.
- Kevin Delia revisited the Coaches Decks for basketball and football. He mentioned that they are more expensive than what he had reported at the last meeting. He also said since the last meeting he had offered them to the soccer coaches but only 3 or 4 coaches took them. The Recreation Commissioners agreed that we should purchase 10 Coaches Decks for football and see what the feedback is after the season.

- Kevin Delia explained to the Recreation Commission that the Rumson Board of Education is now requiring the concussion certificates to be on file at the Board of Education Office for each coach that is coaching on school grounds. Kevin explained that he came to an agreement with the Rumson Board of Education that in the event a copy is required they can get the info from the Rumson Recreation Department due to the amount of coaches that are involved in Rumson Recreation. A conversation continued on how to handle the coaching credentials and how they are logged into a system.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- The members of the Recreation Commission discussed the next section of the Recreation Commission Policies Draft, OPEN AND CLOSED INITIATIVES in depth. Once the recommended changes are made by Kevin Delia the Recreation Commission Policies will be updated and made available for review. Once all sections are discussed at length and recommended changes made the policies shall be codified by the town council.
- Kevin Delia explained that he has not received any notifications from the current travel baseball teams that they are opting out of Rumson Recreation to operate independently. JB Kiley brought up the use of a professional trainer with a current travel baseball team that is currently operating under Rumson Recreation. JB feels that the use of the trainer for this team is very important and he feels that the Recreation Commission needs to be understanding of the benefit of the use of the trainers for the betterment of the kids. He continued that the current high school baseball coach was interested in developing the kids in the lower levels to be ready for the high school level of play. The conversation continued that the use of trainers should be regulated by the Recreation Commission and be allowed across travel sports. Kerry Chandler voiced concerns with the occurrences that happened the previous year with a travel baseball trainer. Chris Hawke discussed the inclusion of the trainers to soccer and how it has been regulated within the rules of Rumson Recreation. He also said his idea for the travel sports in Rumson would be volunteer driven programs that include help from professional trainers. The conversation continued around the benefit of using trainers for the use of practice sessions and the inability of coaches to make practices sessions due to their work schedules. It was also suggested that a parent supervisor to be there at the times the coach wasn't available and the trainer is running practices. Chris Hawke added that there needs to be a plan in place before each season so the parents have an idea of what the costs will be. Jim Dengler asked if the use of professional trainers should be allowed if the guidelines that the Recreation Commission sets were consistent across travel sports in Rumson. Chris said that the guidelines that have been set forth for the travel soccer teams is 2 times per week of the 3 events that occur. John Lembeck suggested to look at the Recreation Commission Policies at the meeting next month for all travel sports as it pertains to the use of professional trainers. It was suggested that it should include the elimination of the use of trainers during games for each sport.
- Kevin Delia updated the Recreation Commission on the baseball field maintenance. He said that Piping Rock will be turned and dragged based on the opinion of the owner of Precise Construction. This will be done the week following the meeting. No material will be added because it will change the playing surface, drainage and level of the fields.

Riverside North and South fields will have the baselines cut and re-sodded on October 3rd. He also said that he will update the Recreation Commission on the status of the Piping Rock Turf project at the next monthly meeting. Kevin said that if the turning of the field seems to be beneficial for the surface at Piping Rock it could be done at all the fields in the future. JB Kiley added that the baseball community has suggested to raise capital to renovate the infield playing surfaces. Kevin suggested we wait to see the progress of the current plans before we move forward with any other thoughts on fixing the infield surfaces.

- Kevin Delia provide the Recreation Commission the Policies Draft, without corrections, to examine over the next month to allow for any suggestions before we provide this as document to the public on the website.
- Kevin Delia provided the Recreation Commission a document he has been working on for field maintenance to be provided to the coaches. He also told the Recreation Commission that he added some details to the coaches' responsibility outline. Kevin asked if the Recreation Commissioners can look through this document to provide suggestions on how to make it better and we can revisit at the October meeting. He also said he would like to make this document available on the website and try to tie it into registration as a way to confirm that it was read prior to accepting a position as a coach.
- Kevin Delia explained to the Recreation Commission his thought processing in creating the Travel Sports Tryout Protocol. Dan Bavuso asked what the policy was for picking the coach for the youngest team in each travel sport. It was discussed and agreed that the coach would be selected from the players' parents that were selected to join the roster within a short time frame after the invitations were extended. Again Kevin asked that it be looked at during the month before the next meeting and we could discuss it in greater depth at the October meeting. JB Kiley asked the process to approve new coaches. It was explained that the coaches are usually presented by the respective travel sports coordinator to the Recreation Commission and they are typically approved. Chris Hawke explained some of the issues that occurred during the travel soccer tryouts. He thinks that some processes need to be improved to communicate the outcome of the tryouts. It was agreed that an email should be send out as soon as possible to all attendees and followed up with phone calls where appropriate. This email should also include the respective travel coordinators for the sport. The travel coordinators provided more details on how they have handled tryout evaluations in the past and going forward. Kevin suggested that these details be added to the Travel Sports Tryout Protocol.
- Kevin Delia provide the Recreation Commission the name of a candidate for the vacant position on the Two River Little League board. It was at the suggestion of Chuck Jones, current TRLL Rumson Board member and outgoing TRLL Rumson board member Rodney Shenman that Dave Hendrickson be nominated to the open position. All were in favor.
- Kevin Delia told the Recreation Commission that the Two River Little League has suggested to drop softball from the league. This will allow the softball league the opportunity to play the other local towns from Oceanport, Monmouth Beach and West Long Branch like it was prior to be included in the TRLL. Kevin also suggested it would be best to approve a representative from Rumson to be a part of the new

committee to allow a coach the ability to affect change rather than himself. Kevin asked the Recreation Commissioners if they would approve Jim Azaceta as the new representative for Rumson Softball. All were in favor.

- Kevin Delia provided the Recreation Commission the outline of the proposal from RFH Youth Lacrosse to revamp the Rumson Recreation Girls Lacrosse program as currently constituted. He suggested that the RFH Youth Lacrosse members come in during the October monthly meeting to discuss this plan with the Recreation Commissioners. A conversation continued regarding the background of the RFH Youth Lacrosse program and the differences with the current recreation program. John Lembeck asked if Kerry Chandler could provide the Recreation Commissioners with an outline of the key notes for the recreation lacrosse program.
- Kevin Delia explained the expenses and interest in the Movies in the Park program. He explained that the cost of \$1200 for the two movies and the fact that most of the people attending he did not recognize as Rumson Residents. His suggestion was to cancel movies in the park next summer. All were in favor.
- Kevin Delia provided an update to the Forrestdale Gymnasium basketball court renovations. He noted that it was approved by the recreation commission to pay \$14000 but it was modified by Tom Rogers, Borough of Rumson Administrator, to be increased to \$19000 to make the amount 10% of the total cost. Kevin also said we will give them additional money after the recreation basketball registration was finalized, approximately \$5000. This will be from the additional \$5 per basketball registration for the court renovations.
- Kevin Delia said he spoke with Dave Marks, Borough of Rumson Engineer, regarding the desired renovation of the Meadow Ridge Running Trail. Dave explained to Kevin that total cost would be around \$240,000. This number is based on the quote in material we had for \$80,000 for the mile long trail. Kevin also explained that the park would have to be closed for 6 weeks and the need for a road to be built for the material to be transported to the back sections of the park. A discussion continued around the need for some remediation for the running trail, especially the bad spots. The Recreation Commission asked if Dave Marks take a look at the trail to see if he could come up with a plan to address the problem areas.
- Kevin Delia explained that the late fees collected for the fall 2016 is up to \$14000. He said it is expected to rise during the next week because he has ordered more jerseys to accommodate the children on the wait lists.
- Kevin Delia told the Recreation Commission that the annual World Cup Rec Soccer tournament is scheduled for October 8th for the 3rd/4th and 5th/6th grade divisions. However, he has not scheduled anything for the 7th/8th grade division yet but plans to.
- Kevin Delia asked the Recreation Commission if the date of Sunday October 30th was ok to hold the parade/carnival, all approved. He also explained that he reached out to the Rumson PTO to help coordinate the parade/carnival and they seemed interested to help. A conversation continued around the change of location from Victory Park to the basketball court area of Forrestdale Middle School.

PERSONNEL ISSUES at 8:56 (closed session)

EXECUTIVE SESSION (closed session)

MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:10pm

JB Kiley made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dan Bavuso. All in favor.

Minutes submitted by: Kevin Delia